

DAM

If thou shouldst *dally* half an hour, his life,
With thine, and all that offer to defend him,
Stand in assured loss. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*
He left his cur, and laying hold
Upon his arms, with courage bold
Cried out, 'tis now no time to *dally*,
The enemy begin to rally. *Hudibras, p. i. cant. 3.*
We have trifled too long already: it is madness to *dally* any
longer, when our souls are at stake. *Calamy's Sermons.*
One hundred thousand pounds must be raised; for there is
no *dallying* with hunger. *Swift.*
2. To exchange caresses; to play the wanton; to fondle.
He is not lolling on a lewd love bed,
But on his knees at meditation;
Not *dallying* with a brace of courtizans,
But meditating with two deep divines. *Shakespeare, Ri. b. III.*
3. To sport; to play; to frolic.
She her airie buildeth in the cedar's top,
And *dallies* with the wind, and scorns the fun. *Shak. R. III.*
4. To delay.
They that would not be reformed by that correction,
wherein he *dallied* with them, shall feel a judgment worthy
of God. *Wisd. xii. 26.*
To DALLY. *v. a.* To put off; to delay; to amuse till a proper
opportunity.
He fully set down, after his wonted manner, to perform
service; not by the hazard of one set battle, but by *dally-*
ing off the time with often skirmishes. *Knolles's History.*
DAM. *n. f.* [from *dame*, which formerly signified mother. *Had*
Nero never been an emperor, should never his dame have be
laine. Chaucer.]
1. The mother; used of beasts, or other animals not human.
The *dam* runs lowing up and down,
Looking the way her harmless young one went,
And can do nought but wail her darling loss. *Shak. H. VI.*
Mother, says a sick kite, give over lamentations, and let
me have your prayers: alas, my child, says the *dam*, which
of the gods shall I go to? *L'Estrange, Fab. 17.*
They bring but one morsel of meat at a time, and have
not fewer, it may be, than seven or eight young in the nest
together, which, at the return of their *dams*, do all at once,
with equal greediness, hold up their heads and gape. *Ray.*
2. A human mother: in contempt or detestation.
This brat is none of mine;
It is the issue of Polixena:
Hence with it, and, together with the *dam*,
Commit them to the fire. *Shakespeare's Winter's Tale.*
DAM. *n. f.* [*dam*, Dutch.] A mole or bank to confine water.
As when the sea breaks o'er its bounds,
And overflows the level grounds,
Those banks and *dams*, that like a screen
Did keep it out, now keep it in. *Hudibras, p. ii. cant. 2.*
Not with so fierce a rage the foaming flood
Roars, when he finds his rapid course withstood;
Bears down the *dams* with unrelucted sway,
And sweeps the cattle and the cots away. *Dryden's Æneis.*
Let loose the reins to all your wat'ry store,
Bear down the *dams*, and open every door. *Dryden.*
The infide of the *dam* must be very smooth and streight;
and if it is made very sloping on each side, it is the better.
Mortimer's Husbandry.
To DAM. *v. a.* [beemman, porebeemman, Saxon; *dammen*, Dut.]
1. To confine, or shut up water by moles or dams.
I'll have the current in this place *damm'd* up;
And here the smug and silver Trent shall run
In a new channel, fair and evenly. *Shakespeare, Hen. VI. p. ii.*
Home I would go,
But that my doors are hateful to my eyes,
Fill'd and *damm'd* up with gaping creditors,
Watchful as fowlers when their game will spring. *Otway.*
Boggy lands are fed by springs, pent by a weight of earth,
that *dams* in the water, and causes it to spread in the ground,
so far as the earth is soft. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
'Tis you must drive that trouble from your soul;
As streams, when *damm'd*, forget their ancient current,
And wond'ring at their banks in other channels flow. *Smith.*
2. It is used by Shakespeare of fire, and by Milton of light.
The more thou *damm'st* it up, the more it burns. *Shakespeare.*
Moon! if your influence be quite *damm'd* up
With black usurping mists, some gentle taper,
Of some clay habitation, visit us
With thy long levell'd rule of streaming light. *Milton.*
DAMAGE. *n. f.* [*damage*, French.]
1. Mischief; hurt; detriment.
Gross errors and absurdities many commit for want of a
friend to tell them of them, to the great damage both of their
fame and fortune. *Bacon, Essay 28.*
Such as were either sent from thence, or raised here, did
commonly do more hurt and damage to the English subjects
than to the Irish enemies, by their continual fets and extor-
tion. *Davies on Ireland.*

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He repulsed the enemy very much to their damage. *Clarend.*
2. Loss; mischief suffered.
His heart exalts him in the harm
Already done, to have dispeopled heav'n,
My damage fondly deem'd! *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. vii.*
3. The value of mischief done.
They believed that they were not able, though they
should be willing to sell all they have in Ireland, to pay the
damages which had been sustained by the war. *Clarendon.*
4. Reparation of damage; retribution.
The bishop demanded restitution of the spoils taken by the
Scots, or damages for the same. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
Tell me whether, upon exhibiting the several particulars
which I have related to you, I may not sue her for damages in
a court of justice? *Addison's Guardian, N^o. 97.*
5. [In law.] Any hurt or hindrance that a man taketh in his
estate. In the common law it particularly signifies a part of
what the jurors be to inquire of; for, after verdict given of
the principal cause, they are likewise asked their consciences
touching costs, which are the charges of suit, and damages,
which contain the hindrance which the plaintiff or demandant
hath suffered, by means of the wrong done him by the de-
fendant or tenant. *Cowell.*
When the judge had awarded due damages to a person, into
whose field a neighbour's oxen had broke, it is reported that
he reversed his own sentence, when he heard that the oxen,
which had done this mischief, were his own. *Watts's Logick.*
To DAMAGE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To mischief; to in-
jure; to impair; to hurt; to harm.
I consider time as an immense ocean, into which many
noble authors are entirely swallowed up, many very much
shattered and damaged, some quite disjointed and broken into
pieces. *Addison's Spectator, N^o. 223.*
To DAMAGE. *v. n.* To take damage, or be damaged.
DAMAGEABLE. *adj.* [from *damage*.]
1. Susceptible of hurt; as, damageable goods.
2. Mischievous; pernicious.
Obscene and immodest talk is offensive to the purity of
God, damageable and infectious to the innocence of our neigh-
bours, and most pernicious to ourselves. *Gougeon's of the Tongue.*
DAMASCENE. *n. f.* [*damascenus*, from *Damascus*.] A small
black plum; a Damson, as it is now spoken.
In April follow the cherry tree in blossom, the damascene
and plum trees in blossom, and the white thorn in leaf. *Bacon.*
In fruits the white commonly is meener, as in pear plums
and damascenes; and the choicest plums are black. *Bacon.*
DAMASK. *n. f.* [*damasquin*, French; *damascino*, Ital. from
Damascus.]
1. Linen or silk woven in a manner invented at Damascus, by
which part rises above the rest in flowers, or other forms.
Wipe your shoes, for want of a clout, with a damask nap-
kin. *Swift's Rules to Servants.*
2. It is used for red colour in *Fairfax*, from the damask rose.
And for some deal perplexed was her spirit;
Her damask late, now chang'd to purest white. *Fairfax, b. ii.*
To DAMASK. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To form flowers upon stuffs.
2. To variegate; to diversify.
Around him dance the rosy hours,
And *damasking* the ground with flow'rs,
With ambient sweets perfume the morn. *Penton.*
3. To adorn steel-work with figures.
DAMASK-PLUM. See PLUM.
DAMASK ROSE. *n. f.* The rose of Damascus; a red rose.
See ROSE.
Damask-roses have not been known in England above one
hundred years, and now are so common. *Bacon's Nat. History.*
No gradual bloom is wanting from the bud,
Nor broad carnations, nor gay spotted pinks,
Nor, shower'd from every bush, the damask-rose. *Thomson.*
DAMASKENING. *n. f.* [from *damasquiner*, Fr.] The art or act
of adorning iron or steel, by making incisions, and filling them
up with gold or silver wire: used in enriching the blades of
swords, and locks of pistols. *Chambers.*
DAME. *n. f.* [*dame*, French; *dama*, Spanish.]
1. A lady; the title of honour to women.
The word *dame* originally signified a mistress of a family,
who was a lady; and it is used still in the English law to sig-
nify a lady; but in common use, now-a-days, it represents a
farmer's wife, or a mistress of a family of the lower rank in
the country. *Watts's Logick.*
Bless you, fair *dame*! I am not to you known,
Though in your state of honour I am perfect:
If you will take a homely man's advice,
Be not found here. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
Not all these lords do vex me half so much
As that proud *dame*, the lord protector's wife. *Shak. H. VI.*
Shut your mouth, *dame*,
Or with this paper I shall stop it;
Thou worst than any thing. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*
Sovereign of creatures, universal *dame*! *Milton, Par. Lost.*
2. It is still used in poetry for women of rank. *His*

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His father Faunus: a Laurentian *dame*
His mother, fair Marica was her name. *Dryden's Æneid.*
Who would not repeat that bliss,
And frequent fight of such a *dame*? *Waller.*
3. Mistress of a low family.
They killed the poor cock; for, say they, if it were not
for his waking our *dame*, she would not wake us. *L'Estrange.*
4. Woman in general.
We've willing *dames* enough; there cannot be
That vulture in you to devour so many,
As will to greatness dedicate themselves,
Finding it so inclin'd. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
DAMES-VIOLET. *n. f.*
The flower of this plant, called also queen's gillyflower,
consists, for the most part, of four leaves, which expand in
form of a cross: out of the flower-cup arises the pointal,
which becomes a long, taper, cylindrical pod, divided
into two cells by an intermediate partition, to which the im-
bricated valves adhere on both sides, and are furnished with
oblong, cylindrical, or globular seeds. *Miller.*
To DAMN. *v. a.* [*danno*, Latin.]
1. To doom to eternal torments in a future state.
Not in the legions
Of horrid hell, can come a devil more damn'd
In evils to top Macbeth. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
It is most necessary, that the church, by doctrine and de-
ceit, do damn and send to hell for ever those facts and opi-
nions. *Bacon, Essay 3.*
2. To procure or cause to be eternally condemned.
That which he continues ignorant of, having done the ut-
most lying in his power, that he might not be ignorant of it,
shall not damn him. *South's Sermons.*
3. To condemn.
His own impartial thought
Will damn, and conscience will record the fault. *Dryd. Juw.*
4. To hoot or hiss any publick performance; to explode.
They damn themselves, nor will my mule defend
To clap with such who fools and knaves commend. *Dryden.*
For the great dons of wit,
Phœbus gives them full privilege alone
To damn all others, and cry up their own. *Dryd. Ind. Emp.*
You are so good a critick, that it is the greatest happiness
of the modern poets that you do not hear their works; and
next, that you are not so arrant a critick as to damn them,
like the rest, without hearing. *Pope.*
DAMNABLE. *adj.* [from *damn*.]
1. Deserving damnation; justly doomed to never-ending punish-
ment.
It gives him occasion of labouring with greater earnest-
ness elsewhere, to entangle unwary minds with the snares of
his damnable opinion. *Hobbes, b. 5. sect. 42.*
He's a creature unprepar'd, unmeet for death;
And, to transport him in the mind he is,
Were damnable. *Shakespeare's Measure for Measure.*
As he does not reckon every schism of a damnable nature,
so he is far from cloving with the new opinion of those who
make it no crime. *Swift.*
2. It is sometimes indecently used in a low and ludicrous sense;
odious; pernicious.
Oh thou damnable fellow! did not I pluck thee by the nose
for thy speeches? *Shakespeare's Measure for Measure.*
DAMNABLY. *adv.* [from *damnable*.]
1. In such a manner as to incur eternal punishment; so as to be
excluded from mercy.
We will propose the question, whether those who hold the
fundamentals of faith may deny Christ *damnably*, in respect of
those consequences that arise from them? *South's Sermons.*
2. It is indecently used in a ludicrous sense; odiously; hatefully.
The more sweets they bestow upon them, the more
damnably their conspires stunk. *Dennis.*
DAMNATION. *n. f.* [from *damn*.] Exclusion from divine
mercy; condemnation to eternal punishment.
He that hath been affrighted with the fears of hell, or re-
members how often he hath been spared from an horrible
damnation, will not be ready to strangle his brother for a
trifle. *Taylor's Worshy Communicant.*
Now mince the sin,
And mollify damnation with a phrase:
Say you consented not to Sancho's death,
But barely not forbade it. *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*
DAMNATORY. *adj.* [from *damnatorius*.] Containing a sentence
of condemnation.
DAMNED. *part. adj.* [from *damn*.] Hateful; detestable; ab-
horred; abominable.
Let not the royal bed of Denmark be
A couch for luxury and damned incest. *Shakespeare, Hamlet.*
But, oh, what damned minutes tells he o'er,
Who doats, yet doubts; suspects, yet strongly loves. *Shak.*
Dare not
To brand the spotless virtue of my prince
With falsehoods of most base, and damn'd contrivance. *Rowe.*
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DA'MNIFIC. *adj.* [from *damnifico*.] Procuring loss; mis-
chievous.
To DA'MNIFY. *v. a.* [from *damnifico*, Latin.]
1. To endamage; to injure; to cause loss to any.
He, who has suffered the damage, has a right to demand in
his own name, and he alone can remit satisfaction: the *dam-*
nified person has the power of appropriating the goods or ser-
vice of the offender, by right of self-preservation. *Locke.*
2. To hurt; to impair.
When now he saw himself so freshly rear,
As if late fight had nought him *damnify'd*,
He was dismay'd, and 'gan his fate to fear. *Fairy Queen.*
DA'MNINGNESS. *n. f.* [from *damning*.] Tendency to procure
damnation.
He may vow never to return to those sins which he hath
had such experience of, for the emptiness and *damningness* of
them, and so think himself a complete penitent. *Hammond.*
DAMP. *adj.* [*dampe*, Dutch.]
1. Moist; inclining to wet; not completely dry; foggy.
She said no more: the trembling Trojans hear,
O'erspread with a *damp* sweat and holy fear. *Dryden's Æn.*
2. Dejected; sunk; depressed.
All these and more came flocking, but with looks
Downcast and *damp*; yet such wherein appear'd
Obscure some glimpse of joy. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. 1.*
A DAMP. *n. f.*
1. Fog; moist air; moisture.
Thus Adam to himself lamented loud,
Through the still night; not now, as ere man fell,
Whollom and cool, and mild; but with black air
Accompany'd, with *damps* and dreadful gloom. *Milt. P. L.*
A rift there was, which from the mountain's height
Convey'd a glimmering and malignant light,
A breathing-place to draw the *damps* away,
A twilight of an intercepted day. *Dryden's Fables.*
2. A noxious vapour exhaled from the earth.
The heat of the sun in the hotter seasons, penetrating the
exterior parts of the earth, excites those mineral exhalations
in subterraneous caverns, which are called *damps*: these sel-
dom happen but in the summer-time, when the hotter the
weather is, the more frequent are the *damps*. *Woodward.*
3. Dejection; depression of spirit; cloud of the mind.
Adam, by this from the cold sudden *damp*
Recov'ring, and his scatter'd spirits return'd,
To Michael thus his humble words address'd. *Milt. P. Lost.*
His name struck ev'ry where so great a *damp*,
As Archimedes through the Roman camp. *Rocommon.*
Even now, while thus I stand blest in thy presence,
A secret *damp* of grief comes o'er my thoughts. *Add. Cato.*
An eternal state, he knows and confesses that he has made
no provision for, that he is undone for ever: a prospect
which is enough to cast a *damp* over his spiritliest hours.
Rogers, Sermon 19.
This commendable resentment against me, strikes a *damp*
upon that spirit in all ranks and corporations of men. *Swift.*
To DAMP. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To wet; to moisten; to make humid.
2. To depress; to deject; to chill.
The very loss of one pleasure is enough to *damp* the relish
of another. *L'Estrange, Fable 38.*
Dread of death hangs over the mere natural man, and,
like the hand-writing on the wall, *damps* all his jollity. *Atterb.*
It would be enough to *damp* their warmth in such pursuits,
if they could once reflect, that in such course they will be sure
to run upon the very rock they mean to avoid. *Swift.*
3. To weaken; to abandon.
A soft body *dampeth* the sound much more than a hard.
Bacon's Natural History, N^o. 158.
Unless an age too late, or cold
Climate, or years, *damp* my intended wing
Depress'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*
DAMPISHNESS. *n. f.* [from *damp*.] Tendency to wetness;
fogginess; moisture.
It hath been used by some with great success to make their
walls thick; and to put a lay of chalk between the bricks,
to take away all dampishness. *Bacon's Natural History, N^o. 937.*
DAMPNESS. *n. f.* [from *damp*.] Moisture; fogginess.
Nor need they fear the dampness of the sky
Should flag their wings, and hinder them to fly;
'Twas only water thrown on sails too dry. *Dryden.*
By stacks they often have very great loss, by the dampness of
the ground, which rots and spoils it. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
DAMPY. *adj.* [from *damp*.] Dejected; gloomy; sorrowful.
The lords did dispel *dampy* thoughts, which the remem-
brance of his uncle might raise, by applying him with exer-
cises and disports. *Hayward.*
DAMSEL. *n. f.* [*damoiselle*, French.]
1. A young gentlewoman; a young woman of distinction: now
only used in verse.
Kneeling, I my servant's smiles implore,
And one mad *damsel* dares dispute my pow'r. *Prior.*
2. An attendant of the better rank. *With*